



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF



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18 FEBRUARY 1966

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1. Dominican Republic

The rapidity with which the general strike ended yesterday is an indication of the considerable control now apparently exercised over labor by the Bosch forces. There were some scattered attempts, presumably by Communist goons, to intimidate returning workers but these were of little apparent effect.

Bosch's comments to newsmen indicate that he intends to play to the hilt his party's role in the strike. He clearly hopes it will enhance his chances in next June's elections.

Implicit in the Bosch line now emerging is the threat of a renewed strike if the army and air force chiefs continue to defy Garcia Godoy's order assigning them to posts abroad. The president has still given no indication as to how he intends to effect the departures

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2. North Vietnam

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Several Communist prisoners of war have claimed that some of North Vietnam's top generals are now serving in the south. Most of these officers are party central committee members, and one is said to have politburo rank.

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3. South Vietnam

[redacted] the Viet Cong intend to intensify both their political action and their military activities in the Saigon region during the coming months. The embassy notes that the increasing restiveness of the people in the capital--due largely to the mounting inflation--may make them more vulnerable to Viet Cong political and psychological campaigns.

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Militarily, the Viet Cong already have a regiment within a 20-mile radius of Saigon, and there are indications that they now plan to introduce a second regiment into the area.

4. France

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5. Communist China

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6. Greece

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7. Rhodesia

British efforts to get Pretoria to stop South African deliveries of oil to Rhodesia have so far been fruitless.

Proliferating press reports about this break in the boycott--even though at the present rate it will not keep Smith in oil beyond June--could revive militant African and domestic pressures on Zambia's Kaunda, who is now relatively relaxed, to take some rash action against Rhodesia.

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8. Nigeria

General Ironsi's military regime, unable to fill the vacuum caused by the ouster of the experienced civilian leaders, is providing little positive direction.

Ironsi seems chiefly concerned with neutralizing restive younger officers

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On 13 February he did appoint a top civil servant to study "administrative machinery for a united Nigeria," but progress toward this goal is likely to be slow.

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9. India

10. Indonesia

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11. Philippines

Prospects for congressional approval to send a Philippine contingent to South Vietnam appear good. President Marcos has committed his prestige and is pulling out all the stops in support of the proposal.

There is a highly vocal opposition campaign from parts of the press and student groups. Some 500 students held an orderly demonstration yesterday before the US Embassy.

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